

SUMMARY OF PAPER SUPPORTED BY THE TIRC TO BE PUBLISHED
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Comparison of Smokers and Nonsmokers:

I. A Preliminary Report on the Ability to Taste Phenylthiourea (P.T.C.)

by

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SUMMARY

1. Taste tests, using filter paper impregnated with P.T.C., have been carried out on 597 white and 232 negro male donors at the Johns Hopkins Hospital Blood Bank. Each donor was interviewed as to his smoking habits.
2. Among both white and negro donors, significant differences in ability to taste P.T.C. were found between smokers and nonsmokers.
3. Among white male donors, heavy cigarette smokers showed a strikingly higher proportion of tasters than did nonsmokers (65.9% versus 42.7%). Former smokers, occasional smokers and light smokers closely resembled the nonsmokers as to proportion of tasters.
4. The significant findings were unrelated to age.

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